

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of performing morphological analysis on a text string in natural language processing, the method comprising:

selecting whether or not to decompose a decomposable complex word in response to a request from an application that utilizes a morphological analysis result;

inputting the text string to be processed;

decomposing the text string into tokens;

when it is selected not to decompose a decomposable complex word, determining whether each token is decomposable;

if a token is not decomposable, registering the non-decomposable token on a token list;

selecting the optimum token string based on the token list.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein a master dictionary is referenced when decomposing the text string into tokens.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein a grammar dictionary is referenced when selecting the optimum token string on the basis of the token list.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, wherein whether a token is decomposable is determined by determining whether a decomposable flag for the token in the master dictionary is set.